

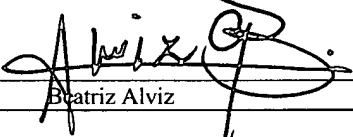
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): VanZandt, Michael C., et al. Group Art Unit: 1626
Serial No: Examiner: Sackey, E.
Filed: herewith
For: "Inhibition of Matrix Metalloproteases by Substituted Biaryl Oxobutyric Acids."

CERTIFICATION OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10)

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any papers referred to as attached are being deposited, on the date shown below, with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label Number ~~ER 55719936~~ in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: DEC 12 2003


Beatriz Alviz

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is submitted in the above-identified application filed on even date herewith.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: